



POLICY PLATFORM

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE IN CALIFORNIA 2025

*Presented by Alzheimer's Los Angeles, Alzheimer's Orange County,
& Alzheimer's San Diego*

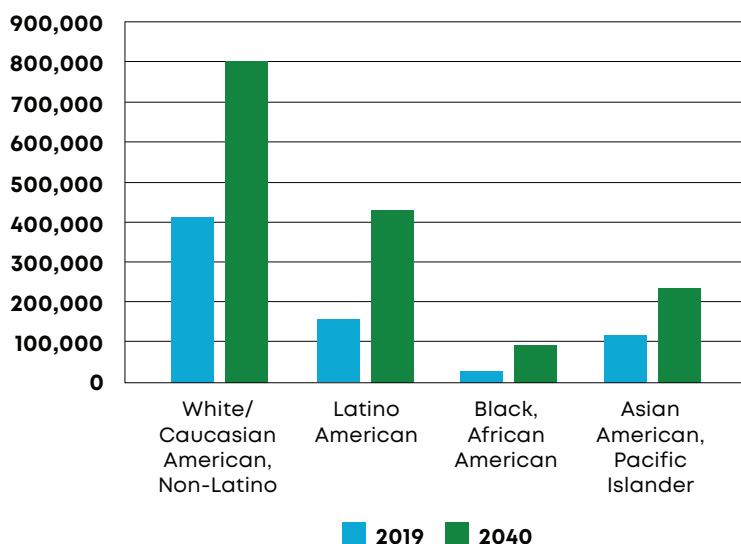
WHO WE ARE

Our organizations are independent, local non-profits, serving Southern Californian families impacted by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias through supportive services and disease education.



We also collaborate to provide workforce training and advocate for improved services and supports. California has over 719,700 residents living with Alzheimer's disease, the majority of these live in the region served by our three organizationsⁱ. The number of Californians living with Alzheimer's and related dementias is expected to double between 2019 and 2040ⁱⁱ. Diverse communities will be disproportionately impacted by Alzheimer's disease (see graph). More than 1.3 million Californians provide unpaid care for a person with Alzheimer's, amounting to 1.8 billion hours of care with an estimated value of over \$44 billionⁱⁱⁱ. Many families have very little public support in addressing the caregiving challenges that grow as the disease progresses.

Increase in Prevalence in Alzheimer's Disease Diverse Communities in California Age 55+



Source: Ross, L, Beld, M, and Yeh, J. (2021). Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Facts and Figures in California: Current Status and Future Projections. Report prepared for the California Department of Public Health, Sacramento, CA at the Institute for Health and Aging, University of California, San Francisco, CA.

WHAT WE DO

Our organizations provide supportive services in Southern California to people living with Alzheimer's and other dementias and to their family caregivers. Our services are free of charge, available in multiple languages, and offered both in person and virtually. They include:



- Care counseling
- Disease and brain health education
- Support groups for people living with this condition and family caregivers
- Activity programs
- Caregiver training workshops
- Community and professional education

We also offer a wide variety of professional training – both in person and online to build a dementia capable workforce. In addition, Alzheimer's Orange County owns and operates an Adult Day Healthcare Center, Healthy Aging Center Acacia.

OUR POLICY PRIORITIES

We advocate collaboratively at the local, state and federal levels for the programs and supports our families need and for increased funding for research into care, treatment and a cure.

California must do a better job of addressing the needs of the growing number of people living with a dementia by:

EXPANDING ACCESS TO HOME & COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

We must increase funding for critical programs such as:

- Adult Day Care Services (Community Based Adult Services & Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Centers)
- Community Care Management for Low Income Seniors (Multi-Purpose Senior Services Program)
- In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)
- Caregiver Resource Centers (CRCs) and California Alzheimer's Disease Centers (CADCs)

SUPPORTING FAMILY CAREGIVERS

We must create systems that reduce the risk of wandering and improve coordinated responses of law enforcement and other first responders.

- Caregiver support
- Caregiver education & skills training
- Respite
- Paid family leave

BUILDING A DEMENTIA CAPABLE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM & WORKFORCE

We must:

- Provide healthcare and long-term care workers with regular training on dementia and dementia care best practices.
- Advocate for equitable and dementia capable healthcare systems that ensure access to early detection, care planning, and caregiver support.



ADDRESSING THE COST OF CARE

Alzheimer's Disease is the most expensive disease with an average lifetime cost of almost \$400,000^{iv}. We must:

- Increase access to affordable and equitable healthcare
- Create a state long-term services and supports benefit
- Protect the Affordable Care Act



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ⁱAlzheimer's Association. 2024 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures. Alzheimers Dement 2024;20(5).

ⁱⁱRoss, L, Beld, M, and Yeh, J. (2021). Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Facts and Figures in California: Current Status and Future Projections. Report prepared for the California Department of Public Health, Sacramento, CA at the Institute for Health and Aging, University of California, San Francisco, CA.

ⁱⁱⁱAlzheimer's Association. 2024 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures. Alzheimers Dement 2024;20(5).

^{iv}Ibid.